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POLREP # 1  
LEWES COAL GAS SITE  
OLD KINGS HIGHWAY  
LEWES, SUSSEX COUNTY, DE 19958  
ATTN: GREGG CRYSTALL AND DEBORAH DIETRICH

I. SITUATION (1200 HRS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 1994)

EVENT: REMOVAL SITE ASSESSMENT

- A. PERSONNEL ON SITE: EPA-1, TAT-2, AND DELAWARE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL (DNREC)-1.
- B. WEATHER CONDITIONS: OVERCAST, DRIZZLE, APPROX. 34F.
- C. SITE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND: LEWES COAL GAS GENERATION PLANT OPERATED A COAL GAS PRODUCTION FACILITY INTERMITTENTLY BETWEEN THE YEARS OF 1919 AND 1931 AT THE PRESENT LOCATION OF TWO DOMESTIC STRUCTURES AND A COMMERCIAL STRUCTURE. DNREC SITE INVESTIGATIONS FROM 06/89 AND 10/93 HAVE FOUND THE SITE TO HAVE SOIL AND WATER CONTAMINANTS OF THE PAH GROUP POTENTIALLY POSING AN EXPOSURE THREAT TO PUBLIC AT THE GROUND SURFACE AND LONG-TERM POTENTIAL THREAT TO A SINGLE-AREA PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY. KARL KALBACHER, PROGRAM MANAGER I OF THE SUPERFUND BRANCH, DIV. OF AIR AND WASTE MANAGEMENT, DNREC, HAS CONTACTED EPA TO EVALUATE AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING SITE PROFILE AND APPROPRIATE ACTIONS BY WHICH EPA CAN PROVIDE REMOVAL ACTION. THE SITE IS A NON-NPL, NON-SCORED SITE TO DATE.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

- A. EPA, DNREC AND TAT CONDUCTED PRELIMINARY, ON-SITE DISCUSSION OF SHORT AND LONG TERM POTENTIAL THREATS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONTAMINANTS AND THE GEOPHYSICAL INTERACTION WITHIN THE SUBSURFACE AS EXPOSED TO THE PUBLIC.
- B. EPA, DNREC AND TAT CONDUCTED VISUAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE PROPERTY AND EXISTING STRUCTURES. PHOTODOCUMENTATION WAS PROVIDED. TAT VISUALLY DOCUMENTED THE PROXIMITY OF THE CITY OF LEWES' FIVE-PUMPHOUSE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SOURCES IN RELATION TO THE SITE.
- C. EPA AND DNREC DISCUSSED OPTIONS IN ASSESSING AND DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE SITE EVALUATION AS WELL AS NOTIFYING THE PROXIMAL RESIDENTS AND COMMERCIAL PERSONNEL OF POTENTIAL THREATS AND ONGOING ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS.

III. FUTURE ACTIONS

- A. EPA TO COORDINATE WITH DNREC IN REGARD TO REMOVAL ACTION OPTIONS.
- B. TAT TASKED BY OSC TO PROVIDE INVESTIGATIVE RESEARCH UPON SITE METHODS OF PRODUCTION, STORAGE, EXPORT AND BY-PRODUCT GENERATION BY THIS FORMER COAL GAS GENERATION FACILITY AND SIMILAR FACILITIES CONTEMPORARY WITH ITS TIME FRAME. TAT ALSO TO INVESTIGATE THE

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- STORAGE TANK (SINCE REMOVED) SPECIFICATIONS, USES AND POTENTIAL FOR NON-CONTAINMENT DURING ITS OPERATION.
- C. TAT TASKED TO PROVIDE ALL STRUCTURAL UNITS ON THE PREMISES FROM 1919 TO DATE, ALL SITE INVESTIGATIVE WORK AND ANALYTICAL SUMMARIES IN MAP FORM, REVIEW SITE AND REGIONAL GROUNDWATER FLOW AS POTENTIALLY AFFECTING A PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SUPPLY, AND TO DEVELOP A SAMPLING PLAN TO FURTHER CHARACTERIZE AND DELINEATE POTENTIAL CONTAMINANT CONCENTRATIONS ON SITE. ANY FUTURE EPA ACTION TO BE DETERMINED BASED ON THESE FINDINGS. THE STATE OF DELAWARE (DNREC) HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO PERFORM ANY LONG-TERM TREATMENT AS DETERMINED BY ADDITIONAL SITE INFORMATION.
- D. DNREC TO NOTIFY RESIDENTS AND COMMERCIAL PERSONNEL ON SITE OF POTENTIAL HEALTH HAZARDS AND ON GOING ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS.

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